

require a cash deposit or posting of a bond equal to the estimated preliminary dumping margin reflected in the preliminary determination of sales at less than fair value published in the **Federal Register**. This suspension of liquidation will remain in effect until further notice.

Final Critical Circumstances Determination

We will make a final determination concerning critical circumstances for Russia when we make our final determination regarding sales at less than fair value in this investigation, which will be 75 days after the preliminary determination regarding sales at less than fair value, unless this investigation is extended.

ITC Notification

In accordance with section 733(f) of the Act, we have notified the ITC of our determination. This notice is published pursuant to section 777(i) of the Act.

Dated: November 1, 1999.

Robert S. LaRussa,

Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

International Trade Administration

[C-428-812]

Hot-Rolled Lead and Bismuth Carbon Steel Products From Germany: Extension of Preliminary Results of Countervailing Duty Administrative Review

AGENCY: Import Administration, International Trade Administration, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of extension of time limit for preliminary results of countervailing duty administrative review.

EFFECTIVE DATE: November 5, 1999.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Copyak at 202-482-2209, Office of AD/CVD Enforcement VI, Group II, Import Administration, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

Time Limits

Statutory Time Limits

Section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act), requires the Department to make a preliminary determination within 245 days after the

last day of the anniversary month of an order/finding for which a review is requested and a final determination within 120 days after the date on which the preliminary determination is published. However, if it is not practicable to complete the review within the time period, section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act allows the Department to extend these deadlines to a maximum of 365 days and 180 days, respectively.

Background

On April 30, 1999, the Department published a notice of initiation of administrative review of the countervailing duty order on hot-rolled lead and bismuth carbon steel products from Germany, covering the period January 1, 1998, through December 31, 1998, (64 FR 23269, 23280). The preliminary results are currently due no later than December 1, 1999.

Extension of Preliminary Results of Review

We determine that it is not practicable to complete the preliminary results of this review within the original time limit. Therefore the Department is extending the time limits for completion of the preliminary results until no later than March 30, 2000. See Decision Memorandum from Holly A. Kuga to Robert S. LaRussa, dated October 27, 1999, which is on file in the Central Records Unit. We intend to issue the final results no later than 120 days after the publication of the preliminary results notice.

This extension is in accordance with section 751(a)(3)(A) of the Act.

Dated: October 28, 1999.

Bernard T. Carreau,

Deputy Assistant Secretary, Import Administration, Group II.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

[Docket No. 98109262-919-02]

RIN 0693-ZA 27

Announcing Approval of Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS) 46-3, Data Encryption Standard

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of Commerce has approved Federal Information

Processing Standard (FIPS) 46-3, Data Encryption Standard, which supersedes FIPS 46-2. FIPS 46-3 provides for the use of the Triple DES as specified in American National Standard (ANSI) X9.52. NIST expects that Triple DES will provide Federal agencies with strong protective measures against associated risks until the Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) is available, probably in 2001.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This standard is effective March 25, 2000.

ADDRESSES: FIPS 46-3 is available on the NIST web page at: <<http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/drafts.html>>.

Copies of the ANSI X9.52 (Triple DES) standard are available from American Bankers Assoc./DC, X9 Customer Service Dept., P.O. Box 79064, Baltimore, MD 21279-0064, telephone 1-800-338-0626.

Information on the Advanced Encryption Standard under development is available at: <<http://www.nist.gov/aes>>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Elaine Barker, (301) 975-2911, National Institute of Standards and Technology, 100 Bureau Drive, STOP 8930, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8930.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Federal Information Processing Standard 46, Data Encryption Standard (DES), first issued in 1977, specified the Data Encryption algorithm, to be implemented in hardware devices, for the cryptographic protection of computer data. The standard provided that it be reviewed within five (5) years to assess its adequacy. In 1981, the DES was adopted as an American National Standard and became widely used by the financial community. The first review of the DES was completed in 1983, and the DES was reaffirmed for Federal government use (48 FR 41062). The second review, completed in 1987, again resulted in the reaffirmation of the standard for Federal government use (52 FR 7006). The standard was re-issued as FIPS 46-1 with minor editorial updating. The third review was completed in 1993, and the standard was reaffirmed as FIPS 46-2 for Federal government use (58 FR 69347). FIPS 46-2 provided for software implementations, as well as hardware implementations, of the DES.

When the DES was reaffirmed in 1993, NIST stated that it would "consider alternatives which offer a higher level of security" at the next review in 1998. There was concern that the DES 56-bit key was not long enough to prevent an attack by trying all of the possible keys. NIST believed that the key was sufficiently long for the